



On the Runway

Community Update

June 2004

Dear Resident:

As many of you know, in November 2003 Long Beach Airport began a year-long rehabilitation project of its main runway, known to us as "12/30." We are at the halfway point in this repair and maintenance process and I wanted to take an opportunity through this newsletter to update everyone on the project status.

Main Runway 12/30 was constructed in the 1950s and was last rehabilitated in 1978. During the past 25 years the asphalt on the Runway has weathered, become cracked and, in places, eroded. It was critical that we repair the Runway now as opposed to later when the damage became more severe. Waiting would have made the repair project more intensive, created greater impact on nearby residents and businesses, required a longer construction timeline and been more costly. Because of the deteriorating condition of 12/30, we had 31 emergency closures in 2003 forcing us to use our backup Runway "7L/25R" for commercial air carrier use without advance notice to you. However, once we have completed the repair and maintenance work on main 12/30 there will be minimal on-going commercial air carrier use of 7L/25R due to maintenance related closures of 12/30.

We are very conscious of the fact that 7L/25R arrivals and departures are much closer to our neighbors than comparable operations on 12/30, and are very mindful of the annoyance and concern that air carrier use of this runway causes in the communities under the flight paths. Please be assured that the Airport's noise monitoring system will be operative during these weekends, and that all air carrier noise for operations on 7L/25R will be added to their annual noise budget.

Please take a moment to read the remainder of our "On the Runway" newsletter. The remainder of this newsletter provides information on what residents and businesses can expect and plan for as we move toward finishing this needed Runway rehabilitation project.

We very much appreciate your patience and support.

Chris Kunze
Airport Bureau Manager

Project Progress

Since November, the contractor has completed the initial milling and paving of the entire length of Runway 12/30. Crews are currently installing new electrical and runway lighting systems. Improvements are also being made to the airfield's storm drain system.

Weekend Closures

Since the runway must be used during the day, thus far construction work has occurred overnight between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

In order to complete this work, Runway 12/30 will be closed on seven weekends.

July 9 – 11

July 16 – 18

July 23 – 25

July 30 – August 1

August 6 – 8

September 10 – 12

September 17 – 19

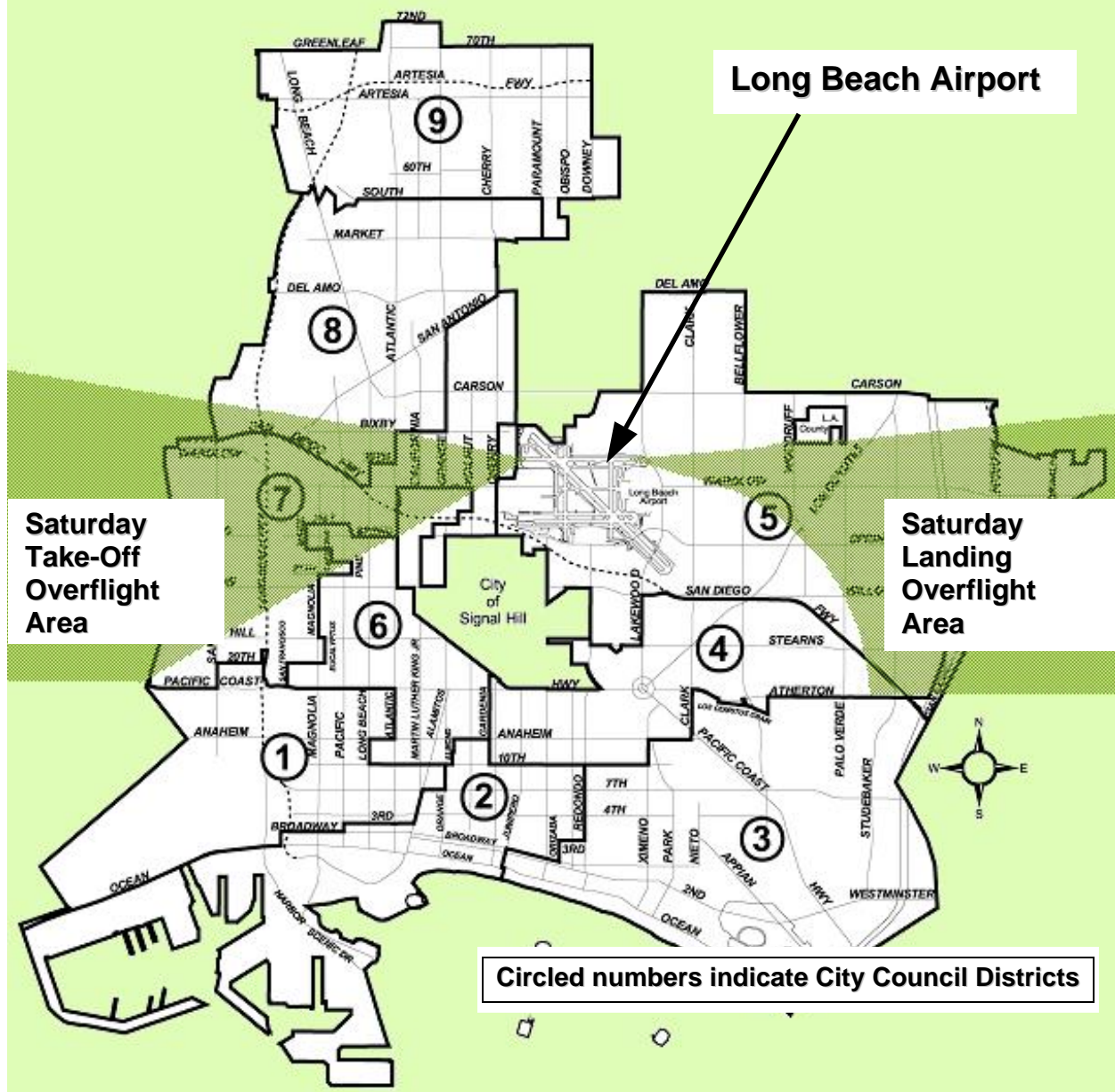
- **Closure Times:** Each closure will begin on Friday, at 11 p.m. and last until Sunday morning at 7 a.m.
- **Change in Flight Path:** During the seven closures of 12/30, commercial activity will be rerouted to Runway 7L/25R. This will cause aircraft to approach and take off from an east – west direction (along Carson and Wardlow) as opposed to the current southeast – northwest flight paths.
- **Reduced Flights:** Residents under the flight path of 7L/25R should experience no more than 36 commercial flights each of the weekend closures. There will be no cargo flights during the weekend closures.
- **Private Aircraft:** Private aircraft activity will occur as usual on either 7L/25R or 25L/7R.

Periodic Use of Runway 7L/25R

- ❖ **Need for Repair/Emergency Use:** The need for aircraft use of 7L/25R has been rare (five times in 2001, six times in 2002). However, use of 7L/25R greatly increased in the past year: 31 times during 2003 due to emergency repair work on the aging 12/30 pavement.
- ❖ **Preventing Future Emergency Use:** Any significant delay in the current project could result in further pavement deterioration requiring complete reconstruction of large areas of runway pavement. This would entail not only a more costly and lengthy project, but could also require extended periods of daytime closures of 12/30, and further use of 7L/25R.
- ❖ **Minimizing Runway Use During Rehab:** Ninety-eight percent of 12/30 construction will occur during nighttime hours, 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Runway 12/30 will be available to airlines during their scheduled operating hours, preventing the need to reroute flights to 7L/25R.
- ❖ **Various Options Reviewed:** The City evaluated several construction options, including “night work only” but, were rejected due to FAA concerns about poor quality results, added cost, significantly increased construction time and on-airport construction related risks.

The City considered full Runway 12/30 closure for the duration of the project; however, asphalt suppliers could not supply sufficient material to support continuous 24-hour per day paving operations.
- ❖ **Runway Size:** Runway 7L/25R is 6,192 feet in length and is 492 feet longer than John Wayne Airport's airline runway (5,700'), which accommodates more than 130 airline flights per day. Runway 7L/25R is also longer than Burbank Airport's instrument runway, which is 6,032 feet.

Areas Temporarily Affected by Weekend Usage of Runway 7L/25R



Construction Traffic

During the first three weekends of daytime construction, there will be an increase in truck traffic in the southeast corner surrounding the airport. The following streets will be affected:

- **Lakewood Blvd.:** Lakewood Blvd. from the 405 freeway north off ramp to the left turn lane at Spring Street
- **Spring Street:** Spring Street will have the westbound curb lane blocked for truck traffic only from Lakewood Blvd. to Redondo Blvd.

- **Redondo Avenue:** Redondo Ave. from Spring Street to Willow Street
- **Willow Street:** Willow Street from Redondo Ave. to the south 405 on ramp

To avoid traffic delays, please look for alternate routes through these areas during the following weekends:

July 9 - 11
July 16 - 18
July 23 - 25

Future updates will list construction traffic for the remaining weekends.



Cost

In September 2003, Long Beach City Council awarded construction contracts to Griffith Company, Santa Fe Springs, and DMJM Aviation, Orange. This \$25 million dollar project is being funded by federal grants and passenger facility charges, and not through the City of Long Beach General Fund.

For Further Information

For additional information about the runway rehabilitation project, as well as other airport projects and activity subscribe to Airport e-Notify. Long Beach Airport's newest neighborhood service.

e-Notify

To subscribe, visit www.lgb.org and click on Airport e-Notify. You'll have options for receiving further notifications about the Runway 12/30 project, as well as unusual aircraft activity, TSA advisories, updates on airport improvements and notice of community meetings.

Contact Information

For more detailed information regarding the airport or the Runway 12/30 project, please contact:
Airport Public Affairs at (562) 570-2678
Sharon Diggs-Jackson at (562) 570-2636
or visit www.lgb.org.

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**Important update
regarding the Long
Beach Airport
Runway 12/30
Rehabilitation
Project. Weekend
closures will begin
July 9, 2004!**